

Cloudy tonight and Friday.
Occasional rain.

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MADDEN FLAYS CAR COMPANIES WITHOUT MERCY

Says System Is Rotten, Dividends Big Under Overcapitalization—Wants More Transfers, Fewer Trailers, Share of Earnings.

"The street car system in this city is rotten," said Representative Madden of Chicago, who has introduced a bill in the House providing a universal transfer system on the street car lines in the District. "That is my unequivocal opinion of it. The street car companies have some good cars, but in many instances they have very bad cars, badly ventilated, and they run trailers at times when they ought not to be allowed to run them.

CHEAPER GAS FOR DISTRICT MADDEN'S AIM

Preparing Figures to Be Presented to House Committee Proving His Contentions.

Letters indorsing the move to secure cheaper gas for the District of Columbia have begun pouring in on Representative Madden of Chicago, who introduced his bill in the House yesterday providing that illuminating gas shall be furnished to patrons at the rate of 75 cents per 1,000 feet.

In these letters it is stated that for several years individuals and citizens' associations have demanded cheaper gas, and Mr. Madden has been referred to the records of many citizens' associations for resolutions the organizations have adopted declaring for the cheaper gas.

Mr. Madden regards these communications as corroboration of his contention that cheaper gas is not only a possibility, but is a well demonstrated practical thing. He is holding in reserve a full set of figures, comparative and otherwise, which he will lay before the House and District of Columbia Committee as evidence to show that gas companies here can make an excellent profit on gas selling it at 75 cents.

Give It Away and Win.
The statement has even been made that a gas company can practically give away its gas, and yet break even on the deal because of its profits on the side lines of the business. Mr. Madden expects to demonstrate that the gas can be made and delivered at a cost of less than 60 cents per 1,000 feet.

Campaigns for cheaper gas have been started frequently in this city, but for various reasons have been allowed to sag and finally drop altogether. Mr. Madden says he will not let up in his fight for this reform until Congress has taken definite action on the proposition. He feels assured that members of Congress, having once learned all the facts in connection with the business, will adopt his view of the matter.

His bill has been referred to the Committee on District of Columbia, in which body Mr. Madden has warm friends. That he will be given a hearing before the committee to explain the requirements of his measure is undoubted. Following this, if the committee wishes to act on it, representatives of the gas companies and the Board of Trade, the Business Men's Association and the Jobbers and Shippers' Association will also be offered an opportunity to express their views on the subject.

The fact that the District Committee is not crowded with work at this time affords an excellent chance for the gas question to be viewed in every possible way. Mr. Madden thinks the active work in the campaign will begin immediately after the Christmas holidays.

Refers to Big Dividends.

The companies here are capitalized at six times more than they cost, and yet they pay enormous dividends on that capitalization.

"This is ample evidence of the tremendous earning capacity of the companies. Some part of these earnings belongs to the people, and would reduce the general burden of taxation or go toward beautifying the city.

"As for the universal transfer system, the average ride here is only about four miles. In Chicago we are about to have a unified street car system by which you can ride forty miles for five cents. It does seem to me as only fair that people be allowed to ride anywhere they want to in a radius of four miles for five cents.

Chicago Gets a Share.
"Also Chicago is to get 55 per cent of the net earnings of the street car companies."

"There ought to be a provision in the bill against the use of trailers at certain periods, and I don't know but what I may insert that clause later.

"The District Commissioners certainly ought to have the power of making the companies run as many cars as they think advisable.

"If there is no penalty by which they can compel such action, we will remedy that defect by another clause in the bill."

REPORTED CHARGES AGAINST PERSHING ARE NOT CREDITED

Manila Newspaper Says
Objections to Confirmation Are On Way.

A sensation has been caused in army and social circles of Washington, by the startling charges made against Brig. Gen. John J. Pershing in the Manila American, copies of which have just been received in this city in the last mail from Manila.

According to this publication high army officers stationed in the Philippines have written to leading members of the Senate, asking that confirmation of the President's nomination to promote Gen. Pershing from captain to brigadier general be deferred until formal charges, which they have made, reach Washington.

The present effort to prevent the General's confirmation has failed, inasmuch as the Senate took favorable action on the case December 19.

According to reports from Manila, a number of officers there stand ready to make affidavits that Pershing, when he was stationed in the islands in 1901 and 1902, openly lived with a Filipino woman who attended an army cantina, and that two children were born to them.

Pershing was military attaché at Tokio when he was married to the charming daughter of Senator Warren of Wyoming, who is chairman of the Senate Committee on Military Affairs, which favorably reported his nomination for confirmation.

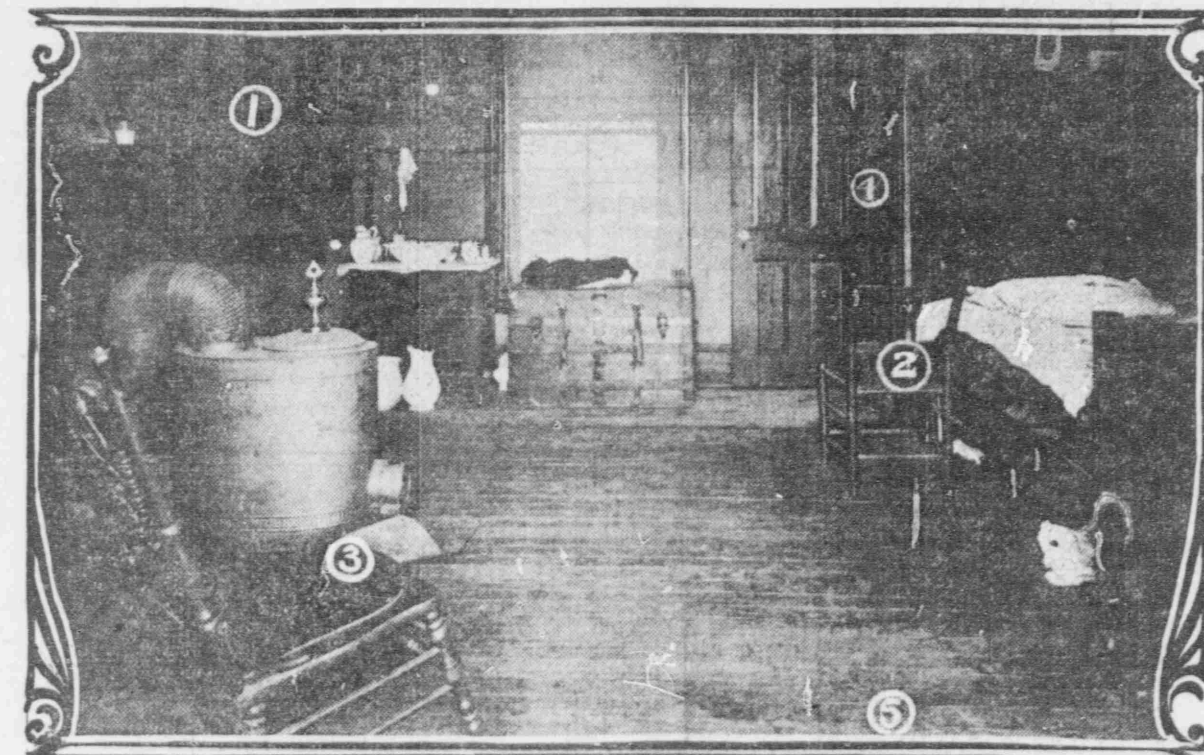
War Department officials are not inclined to give credence to the reports from Manila, and will take no action unless some officer should formally prefer charges against General Pershing.

Inquiry at Senator Warren's office today in regard to the accusations, developed the fact that an informal investigation of the charges was conducted a short time ago, and that the army officer was exonerated.

BILL ACCEPTING SAILBOAT.

Senator Hall has introduced a bill to authorize the Secretary of the Navy to accept as a gift from the family of the late Assistant Naval Constructor Joseph E. McDonald, a sailboat for use of Annapolis midshipmen.

BRIDE-WIDOW'S ORDEAL IN BYWATERS INQUEST



The Room in the Gaines Home in Which Bywaters Was Killed. Photograph Taken From Window Through Which Bywaters Sought to Escape. (1) Door Through Which One of the Strothers Entered. (2) Where Bywaters Sat by the Bed of His Wife. (3) Chair Occupied by the Other Strothers Brother. (4) Open Door Leading to Stairs, Down Which Bywaters First Attempted Flight. (5) Where Bywaters Ran, Seeking to Escape by Means of the Window.

DR. LEON DENIES BEING IMPLICATED

Declares He Knows Neither the Bywaters nor Tysons, as Alleged.

"I know nothing of this matter except what has been published in the newspapers. I never saw or heard of the Bywaters or Tysons until their names appeared in print. There is some mistake—the woman never came to see me."

In these words Dr. Leon, or Leon Thompson, of 457 Missouri avenue northwest, denied the statements made by Mrs. Bywaters, who says he is the man who performed an operation on her. Dr. Leon refuses to discuss the case. He emphatically disclaims any connection with it, and insists that the use of his name by the woman is an error.

At Police Headquarters today, Inspector Boardman said Dr. Leon is enjoying liberty on \$2,000 bond, furnished for his appearance in court in connection with another criminal operation case. The victim was a servant girl, who was taken desperately ill and was sent to the Columbia Hospital about a year and a half ago.

The police say Dr. Leon has been arrested a number of times, and was at one time convicted, but that because of technicalities, the case was dropped.

Major Sylvester said this morning that he had instructed Inspector Boardman to take any action in the matter. The inquiry, therefore, will not be in the nature of an official investigation.

If, however, it is found that there is ground for any action, it will be taken promptly. Major Sylvester said that further than this there was nothing to say about the matter.

Unless Mrs. Bywaters would come to Washington and personally prosecute Dr. Leon and Dr. Walter, who, it is alleged, performed an illegal operation on her, there is nothing that the police department can do in the case, said Inspector Boardman.

Finds Couple Overcome From Fumes of Gas

Aged Jos. Cumberlege and Wife Hurried to Hospital for Treatment.

James Cumberlege, sixty-seven years old, a boiler maker at the Navy Yard, and his wife Catherine, seventy-two years old, were found overcome from gas at 8 o'clock this morning in their room on the second floor of a rooming house at 428 New Jersey avenue northwest.

Mrs. Beuhne, the landlady, detected the odor of escaping gas, which she traced to the Cumberleges' room. Opening the door, she found the elderly couple lying in bed. Gas was flowing from an open jet and both were unconscious.

Hurried to Hospitals.
She immediately notified the police at the Sixth precinct, which is almost directly across the street, and the ambulances from the Emergency and Casualty hospitals were summoned. Mr. Cumberlege was sent to the Emergency and his wife to the Casualty. At the hospitals it was stated that both the patients would recover.

It is believed that the affair was purely accidental. Mr. Cumberlege retired after his wife last evening, and it is thought that, after turning out the gas, he turned the thumb screw partially on again.

Believe It an Accident.

Mrs. Beuhne when seen by a reporter said: "I believe it was an accident. They had trouble early last evening with the gas meter and their gas was shut off for a few minutes. I believe two jets, one in the kitchen and one in their sleeping room, had been left open, and to this I attribute the accident."

Mr. Cumberlege, although still suffering from the effects of the gas, was able to tell the Emergency Hospital physicians that he had no idea how the accident could have happened. He is employed at the Navy Yard but has been on leave for two days.

RAILROADS WAGE WAR ON MOSELEY FOR STATEMENTS

Corporations Worry Over Damaging Evidence of Commission Official.

Charging that he has misstated the facts about railroad accidents, that he has juggled statistics in order to make them show that railroad travel is much more dangerous in this country than abroad, and that he is a special pleader for the labor unions and against the railroads, Western roads have opened a war upon Secretary Edward A. Moseley, of the Interstate Commerce Commission.

It is charged that Mr. Moseley has been unduly active and unfair in his advocacy of the pending "hours of service" legislation, which proposes to limit to sixteen hours the continuous employment of railroad men in train service. This is the bill which Senator La Follette has been pressing in the upper chamber, on which it has been agreed to vote January 12. The railroads are unimpressed by the bill, and are endeavoring to secure its defeat.

Senator Carter in Opposition.
Thus far there has been no discussion of the measure this session, because nobody has been ready to speak. Senator La Follette made his address for the measure last session and is now waiting for the opponents, headed by Senator Carter, to talk in support of the pending amendments. It is expected the measure will be taken up immediately after the holidays and discussed at considerable length.

The Burlington road is apparently leading the fight against Secretary Moseley in connection with his alleged activity in favor of the bill. To it is attributed a little book, lately received in Washington, attacking Moseley and his statistics on railroad accidents as published by the Interstate Commission.

Pamphlet Against Moseley.
This pamphlet charges that Mr. Moseley prepared a table of eighty-six cases, compiled from the reports of the railroad companies, in which he alleged that accidents were caused by the excessive working hours required of the men. It is declared that these eighty-six cases were all the instances that could be found in the accident records of five years, which served the purpose of proving that men were worked too long hours. Many of these cases even, it is further charged, did not prove anything of the sort.

The pamphlet proceeds to analyze these various cases, in order to show that accidents were caused by the excessive working hours of the men. A synopsis of the facts concerning each case is presented, and it is demonstrated, it is claimed, that the secretary's conclusions are unfounded.

Secretary Not Worried.
Mr. Moseley is not especially worried about the attack on himself. He has prepared an answer, which will probably be used during the discussion of the hours of service bill, in which he charges some serious things against the railroad officials. He shows that the explanations given in the railroad pamphlet do not at all tally with those made under oath to the commission. He admits that he accepted as accurate these two statements, which are required by law, and drew his statistics from them.

In the facts concerning these accidents, as furnished to Mr. Rice (author of the pamphlet) by the railroad officials, there are some statements that do not appear in the reports to the commission under oath, and other statements that conflict with statements made in the official reports sent to the commission. It is hardly necessary to point out that in all these cases, if the facts are as stated to Mr. Rice, rather than as stated to the commission, the official making the report to the commission in the first instance is guilty of perjury."

UNDER BITTER FIRE OF QUESTIONS BY CORONER.

TRIES TO SAVE
BROTHERS FROM
THE GALLOWS.

TELLS CAUSE FOR
KILLING OF HER
HUSBAND.

CULPEPER, Va., Dec. 20.—James and Phillip Strother, held by the coroner's jury for the killing of William F. Bywaters within an hour after he had wedded their sister, Viola, on their demand to save the girl's honor, are walking the streets today under \$5,000 bonds.

The widow bride, who was thought to be dying, has given evidence to help her brothers. She appeared to have forgotten her love for her husband in an effort to save her brothers from the gallows. The "unwritten law" will be invoked to clear the brothers, who, without warning, shot down and killed Bywaters as he was leaving his sick wife.

Ordeal of Bride-Widow.

The coroner, with his jurors and a dozen newspaper men, drove four miles to the Gaines home to get the testimony of Viola Strother-Bywaters. Owing to the critical condition of the girl, only a few persons could be admitted to the room. The Times staff correspondent was delegated as the one newspaper man to be admitted for the purpose of securing a stenographic report of the testimony for the grand jury.

About the room were grouped the three Strother brothers, while just before the examination began her sister, Mrs. Gaines' slipped to the bedside, and, seating herself upon it, took the hands of the stricken girl in hers.

Then, in a faltering voice, Coroner Lewis explained the object of the visit to the girl.

"Viola," he said, "we know this is a terrible ordeal for you, and we are going to be just as brief as we can, but we want you to try to control yourself and answer the questions, for it's our duty, you know, to get this statement from you."

"I know it, Dr. Lewis, the girl replied. "Go ahead, I am ready."

"I Was Nearly Crazy."
At times during the examination, the witness would falter and glance appealingly around the room before answering. Some of the answers were vague and unsatisfactory, but she would explain them with "I don't know. I was so nearly crazed, I don't remember what happened. The first thing I remember seems to be the shots, and then I screamed and got up out of bed, and ran down stairs and ran all around. That is nearly all I can remember, it was so awful."

It was only when questioned closely about the shots in the room and about the trip to Washington for the purpose of undoing her shame that she would falter and hesitate in her answers.

The ordeal over, Coroner Lewis requested Mrs. Bywaters to affix her signature to the typewritten statement, which she did while lying upon her back.

It was long past dark when the party reached town, all going immediately to the office of Coroner Lewis, where the jury went into private session. Within thirty minutes the coroner's jury announced the following verdict:

"We, the coroner's jury, duly sworn; according to the evidence taken before us, find that the following verdict: That William F. Bywaters came to his death on the evening of December 15, 1906, at the home of James A. Strother, named Rotherwood, by wounds inflicted by firearms of twenty-two calibre or larger, in the hands of James A. and Phillip Strother. Signed, Charles C. Lewis, coroner, E. A. Walters, C. S. Jones, R. P. (Continued on Ninth Page.)

CURT JETT ADMITS KILLING COCKRILL

CYNTHIANA, Ky., Dec. 20.—Curt Jett today made a full confession of the murder of Jim Cockrill, at Jackson.

PRESIDENT HAS MODIFIED
HOMESTEAD LAND ORDER

President Roosevelt has modified his order to withdraw from entry coal lands covering over 60,000,000 acres. The President's attention was directed to the fact some of the land affected by the order was agricultural rather than mineral land. It is therefore directed that where it is shown a tract is not particularly valuable for coal, it may be entered on for homestead purposes or under various public land acts, subject to a personal examination by a special agent of the Interior Department before patent is issued. Land officials say 10,000 agents would be needed to carry out the order literally.

HIGGINS SAVES PATRICK FROM DEATH CHAIR

Governor Commutes to Life Imprisonment the Sentence Imposed on Murderer of Rice.

ISSUES STATEMENT
DEFINING POSITION

Says Divided Court, Three to Seven, Showed Grave Doubts as to Errors of Trial.



ALBERT T. PATRICK, Lawyer-Murderer Whose Life Has Been Saved by Governor Higgins.

ALBANY, N. Y., Dec. 20.—Governor Higgins today commuted the sentence of Albert T. Patrick, now in the death house at Sing Sing for murder of William M. Rice, to imprisonment for life.

In commuting the sentence, the governor says: "Albert T. Patrick has been convicted of the murder of William M. Rice, and the judgment of conviction has been affirmed by a divided court. It is not claimed that Patrick committed the murder in person, but that he procured the act to be done. He has been convicted principally upon the testimony of Charles F. Jones, who confessed that he murdered his master while he lay asleep, instigated thereto by Patrick, and Jones by this testimony has purchased his own immunity from trial or punishment. Neither this fact alone, nor the review of any question of fact already passed upon by the courts at some stage of these proceedings, would seem to me to warrant interfering with the judgment of death pronounced against the defendant, but that the death penalty ought not, under all the circumstances, to be inflicted."

"In view of these facts and the grave doubts expressed by the judges, I am satisfied that I ought to relieve the defendant from the extreme penalty of the law and commute his sentence to imprisonment for life."

COLORED PEOPLE GRILL PRESIDENT IN OPEN SESSION

New England League
Denounces in Scathing Terms His Action.

BOSTON, Dec. 20.—The colored people of Boston and vicinity who may be taken as representatives of the race in New England, have been roused to fury by President Roosevelt's message justifying his discharge of the Brownsville negro troops.

As soon as the message became public the Suffrage League called a hasty meeting in charge of the Rev. W. H. Scott, of Woburn, a prominent clergyman, and adopted resolutions which are now being sent to the various colored people's organizations throughout the country.

These resolutions denounce the President as an instigator of race hatred and mob violence, call him a tyrant rather than a leader of men.

They declare that he has proved himself "not the friend whom he poses to be the mere handing out to the race in advance of his election of a few paltry traves and fishes, thereby showing himself to be a mere politician and not a great statesman."

They assert that the President misrepresents 10,000,000 negroes as law-abiding and as patriotic as any citizens of the country.

WEATHER REPORT.

General rains have set in over practically the whole country east of the Mississippi and south of the Ohio, and snow in the lower lake region and northern and central New York. In Western districts the weather is fair with relatively high temperatures.

For tonight and Friday the weather will be unsettled with rain in the middle Atlantic States, snow in the lower lake region, and occasional showers in the south Atlantic States.

The temperature will be somewhat higher in the middle Atlantic States to-night with little if any change on Friday.

Steamers departing today for European ports will find fresh weather to the south west and rainy weather to the Grand Banks.

9 a. m. 33
12 noon 34
1 p. m. 35
2 p. m. 37

DOWNTOWN.

9 a. m. 33
12 noon 34
1 p. m. 35
2 p. m. 37

SUN TABLE.

Sun sets today 4:41 p.m.
Sun rises tomorrow 7:15 a.m.

TIDE TABLE.

Low tide today 6:20 p.m.
High tide tomorrow 12:42 p.m.
Low tide tomorrow 6:45 p.m.

HARPERS FERRY, W. Va., Dec. 20.—Both rivers clear.

Women's Souls

Sometimes Women That Have Been Through Workhouse Course

We learn only through experience and sometimes experience takes the form of suffering. Victor Hugo strikingly told in "Les Miserables," how Jean Valjean was tried out and purified through the fire of sorrow and anguish. In the magazine section of next Sunday's Times will be set forth how erring women, through the interest taken in them and their labors at the Washington Workhouse, are frequently reformed into useful factors in society and become loving wives and mothers.

READ NEXT SUNDAY'S TIMES